

The Newport Plain Talk

NEWPORT, TENNESSEE

Entered at the Post Office at Newport, Tenn as Second Class Mail Matter.

Advertising Rates on Application.
Published Every Thursday.

Subscription Rates

ONE YEAR\$1.00
SIX MONTHS50

BOTH TELEPHONES

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EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

Thursday, September 7, 1911

Morristown fair is in full blast this week and next week comes the Appalachian.

The editors of Tennessee will gather at Knoxville, September 15 as the guests of the exposition officials.

The exhibitor who fails to get a prize can always find superior points in his losers to that shown in the winners.

Bob Taylor was just as enjoyable as ever and his presence here prevented the fair association stockholders from getting stuck for even more coin.

Of course, there possibly was no significance in Judge McHenderson's speech here last Thursday but there were those on the ground who could feel that the Judge was running for something, from the expression on his face.

It will always be a matter of much pride to the young lady who wins the piano being given away by THE PLAIN TALK and if you have a friend who is a contestant boost her standing by giving her your subscription or your renewal.

Senator Taylor tells the country boy to stick to that dear old farm, and that while he has handled a good many golden eagles and won some glory, he has always regretted the day when he took his feet from his old homestead at Happy Valley.

Bill Montgomery winked his eye and smiled when some one asked him if the speech of Judge McHenderson did not mean that the judge was a candidate for congress. Bill ought to know for he is doing sterling press agent work for the judge at this time.

Contestants are busy hustling for votes in the great piano contest now on. The prizes are here and will become the property of the one receiving the highest number of votes. This will be determined by the amount of work done by a candidate and by a candidate's friends.

John Isaac Cox is now mentioned as a possible candidate for representative. John Isaac is bound to run for something and it is certainly hoped that the people of his district will have enough decency about them, to get rid of him once and for ever the next time he makes a race.

We note that J. Harry Swan Jr., has been named back tax collector for East Tennessee. Harry certainly made his trip to the legislature pay him well. He seems to have picked up several soft snaps besides living in luxury while attending the long session. It's a wise man who puts the proper value on his services to the public.

If Bill Montgomery don't stop his kidding he will get us all puffed up. This thing of knocking Congressman Sells in one paragraph, praising Judge McHenderson in another and rapping on us in the next, is getting on our nerves. Congressman Sells is drawing \$7500 per year and can afford to take the knocks, Judge McHenderson it is said has eyes on that same \$7500 and is glad to receive the boosts, but just where we are to come in, our friend from Sevierville will have to explain.

The bell of the Newport High school has sounded again. The enrollment is already a large one, and hundreds of boys and girls are given the opportunity to gain knowledge, in order that their usefulness of the future may be increased. No boy or girl can complain these days of the lack of opportunity to gain an education.

The street in front of the post office, Sunday looked like some unkept alley, a place for the piling of trash, as there was a litter of paper, watermelon rind and watermelon seeds scattered about. The municipal authorities should certainly make some efforts to keep the streets clean, especially for Sunday.

Judge McHenderson, although a Republican, was telling his friends here during the fair that he believed that the farmers were entitled to better things. He said he was in favor of paying the farm help five dollars a day instead of paying the machinist that sum, as he believed that the high wage should be paid to the man who produced necessities instead of the man who produced luxuries.

Coke county will be within two miles of the great state highway, if the lower route through Greene county is selected and the road passes through Birds Hill, Dulaney and other points on a direct line between Morristown and Greeneville. There are two routes in dispute in Greene county and the Bruner's Grove people are pulling hard for the selection of the lower route.

Hawkins county people overwhelmingly voted against a \$200,000 bond issue for good roads, and the Rogersville Star says that this action was not taken because the citizens did not want good roads, but because they did not believe the money would be honestly expended and the grafters would get the best portion of it. It is too bad that Hawkins has delayed the improvement of her highways because of her general distrust in mankind. Although the bitterest kind of a fight was waged in Coke county, there has never been a hint that the people were not getting the value of their money in the construction of the roads here, and Hawkins county could have assured the voters of the proper expenditure of the money by putting responsible citizens in charge of the fund.

The eighth annual meeting of the Appalachian fair has been held. Throughout the three days there was a spirit of resignation shown and it was frequently stated by those vitally interested, that this eighth show would sound taps to the association.

Many Coke county people look forward each year to the fair as the big picnic occasion of the year. These will hope that things are not as bad as they look and that some means will be found to continue the meetings in the future.

There are others who have predicted the downfall of the association, claiming that the fair management during the past few years has been in the hands of a certain few, and that the great mass of common people were being treated as though their only part in the fair was to contribute their little mite at the gate.

The lack of interest in 1909

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caused the directors to raise the price of admission and this, too, has been resented by the people of the country districts, it is these people who make or break a fair.

Of course there were many interested in the fair who had no selfish motives, men and women who were anxious to see the fair live, for the advertisement it gives the county. The majority of the stockholders had this feeling, but these were not in active charge and the ultimate financial failure has often been predicted, it being said that it was but a matter of a few years, until those in charge would run it into the ground.

The next meeting of the directors will be awaited with interest and there are many who will hope that the cloud of the presence, will have a silver lining in the future.

BILL MONTGOMERYISMS

The last issue of Bill Montgomery's Vindicator was a classy one. He must have been in good "spirits" when he emitted the following, but the first paragraph possible explains those following:

"We invite the attention of our readers to the advertisement of The Tennessee Beverage Company. We don't get any money for this ad., but are to take a car load of beer."

"The editor of PLAIN TALK denies he received a telegram announcing the appointment by Congressman Sells of a postmaster at Nallon. We expect that the night of the next primary, like Peter the night Christ was betrayed, he will deny that he ever heard of Sam Sells."

"The manufacturer of governors and the perpetrator of Sam Sells, and General Buttram, wonders what kind of stuff we have been drinking. It was not purchased from a bootlegger, operating under protection of General Buttram and the anti-saloon league, but from a licensed dealer at Middlesboro."

"Many of the close friends of Congressman Brownlow supported Sam R. Sells for Congress in 1910, thinking his election would tend to bring about harmony in the republican ranks in the first district, but all Brownlow people are reminded of the story of the man who had pity on the frozen reptile and warmed it to life, only to receive in return for his kindness a charge of its deadly poison into his system. The people of the first district blundered and they feel it."

"We had expected that editor Susong of THE NEWPORT PLAIN TALK would be appointed postmaster at Newport as soon as Congressman Sells can succeed in displacing the widow woman whom Congressman Brownlow appointed and who has filled the office acceptably, but we understand Congressman Sells and Senator Lea have him slated for editor of the Congressional Record. Then when Sells makes a speech the word "applause" will appear quite frequently."

"Birmingham, Ala., voted last Thursday, Aug. 24th to re-instate the saloon. When Sam Sells and the prohibition wing of the legislature go to that city in 1913, they will not have to depend on the bootleggers for their booze."

"Judge Henderson may not be a candidate for congress, but if he declines to stand it will be because he prefers to serve the people as Judge rather than go to congress and not because he is afraid of the popularity of Mr. Sells or the "Influence" of his prospective postmasters."

"As Sam Sells has to attend the sessions of the legislature and also look after the post office department at Washington, and as it has become customary for one branch of the Legislature to hold its session outside the States, we suggest that the legislature of 1913 hold its session in Washington to save Mr. Sells so much worry and expense."

"Anyone who promised to contribute to the slush fund of Congressman Sells and has failed to do so, should cough up at once. Sells wants to get ready for the next race."

"Judge Henderson is real proud that the lawyers of the second judicial circuit who would like to be judge, did not discover two years ago that he was as weak as the Sells leaders now claim he is."

"The Sells leaders are beginning to realize that Judge McHenderson is not so weak as they thought he was. After the election they will wonder why they ever supported so weak a candidate as Mr. Sells."

The above are but a few of the Vindicator's eruptions. They are a fair sample of the Vindicator's

weekly denunciations of the first district congressman. He gets slightly mixed some times in his dope, but that is to be expected. For instance he speaks of the displacing of the postmaster at Newport by Congressman Sells, where it is a matter of common knowledge that no effort has been made or would be made here, to make a change as the present postmistress has filled the office to the satisfaction of the postal authorities, and there is no possibility of a change until the incumbent's four years has expired.

Fine Lot Of Chickens

Herbert Haun of Mohawk certainly had a fine lot of chickens on exhibition at the fair ground. His entries helped to make that part of the show a success.

H. E. Holland and son of Greeneville were here for the fair.

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